THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. No proposal has been received by Airports Authority of India from Government of Japan to build an International Airport at Kolkata.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Upgradation of Delhi Airport

3402. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seeking private sector participation in upgradation of Delhi Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether upgradation of infrastructure is to be completed before the start of Commonwealth Games; and

(d) if so, the details of the funds being provided for the purpose and when the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Expression of Interest (EoI) was invited through Global Tender for restructuring and modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai airports. Ten consortia submitted EoIs, out of which nine pre-qualified for Request for Proposal (RFP) stage. The pre-qualified bidders have been issued the RFP documents on 1.4.2005 to enable them to submit their technical and financial bids within a period of 12 weeks.

(c) and (d) The Joint Venture Company will be required to take up mandatory capital projects to be executed within 5 years for Delhi Airport coinciding with the organisation of Commonwealth Games in the year 2010 at an estimated cost of Rs. 4220 Crore.

Removal of First Class seats in AI flights

3403. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has decided to remove First Class seats in their flights to benefit the Economy Class passengers; and

(b) if so, whether the First Class seats are closed for commercial reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Suggestions to boost Aviation Industry

3404. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions to give the much-needed boost to the Indian aviation industry; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government receives several suggestions for development of airlines and airports, which is an ongoing process. Besides, the Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Naresh Chandra to prepare a roadmap for civil aviation sector has also given various suggestions for the development of civil aviation sector of the country. Based on these suggestions comprehensive "National Civil Aviation Policy" has been drafted in consultation with the stakeholders in the aviation sector. The draft Civil Aviation Policy is presently under inter-ministerial consultation before being submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

Accidents involving small aeroplanes/helicopters

†3405. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reports of Investigating Committees in connection with the accidents of small aeroplanes/helicopters having a single engine during last five years;

(b) whether Government are implementing the recommendations of said reports;

(c) whether the safety arrangements made by Government in this regard are at par with the international standards; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.